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NEWS OF THE PROFESSION.

Virginia Law Examiners Named.—From a list of fifteen prominent Virginia attorneys furnished by the supreme court, Gov. Wm. Hodges Mann has appointed a State board of law examiners, as follows: R. M. Hughes, of Norfolk; Robert C. Jackson, of Roanoke; Frank T. Glasgow, of Staunton; Thomas R. Keith, of Fairfax, and William B. McIlwaine, of Petersburg.

MISCELLANY.

The Law of the Airship.—In the last number of the *American Journal of Int. Law* Mr. Woolsey has two articles upon the new topic of aerial law, one dealing with the subject generally, the other with the law of the airship says the London Law Journal.

The writer raises the problem of a right of navigation in the air, and suggests that the maxim *Cujus est solum ejus est usque ad coelum* is "the production of some black-letter lawyer, and, like every short definition of a complex right, must be taken with limitations." One limitation suggested is that a proprietor of land cannot be heard to complain of any use of the air above it by which no injury to him can result. His right (above a certain height) is too tenuous for the State to care to protect by its active intervention.

It is noteworthy that the German Imperial Code of 1900 provides that the owner of a piece of land may not forbid interference which takes place at such a height or depth that he has no interest in its prevention. The writer further suggests that, following the decision of the English Court of Appeal in *Wing v. The London General Omnibus Company* (the case of the skidding motor-'bus), an aviator would not be responsible for any damage he might cause accidentally while navigating the air. In his opinion, however, it would be well if the State compelled the owner of each airship, as the condition of a flying license, to take out a blanket policy of accident insurance covering all injuries occasioned by the use of the ship.

As Sir Matthew Hale in his preface to Rolle's Abridgment said: "The common law is not the product of the wisdom of some one man, or society of men, in any one age, but of the wisdom, counsel, experience, and observation of many ages of wise and observing men. * * *"

But granting the authenticity of the common-law maxim that one owns *ab solo usque ad caelum*, yet as it is one of the peculiar beauties of the common law that it adapts itself to the rights of the parties under every change of circumstances, so as to keep step with the march of progress and the advance of civilization, there can be little doubt that the claim of the owner of the "solo" to an unlimited ownership of the "caelum" will be denied, should the point ever be directly presented for adjudication.